Met Office

Annual 2008

The following represents an assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during 2008 and how it compared with the averages for the period 1971 to 2000.

Daily maximum, minimum and mean temperatures were generally 0.5 to 1 °C above average across the UK for 2008, with most areas experiencing their coldest year since 2001. The first half of the year had daily mean temperatures for the UK around 1 °C above average, whilst the second half of the year had daily mean temperatures close to average. It was the coldest second half of the year since 1996 over the UK.

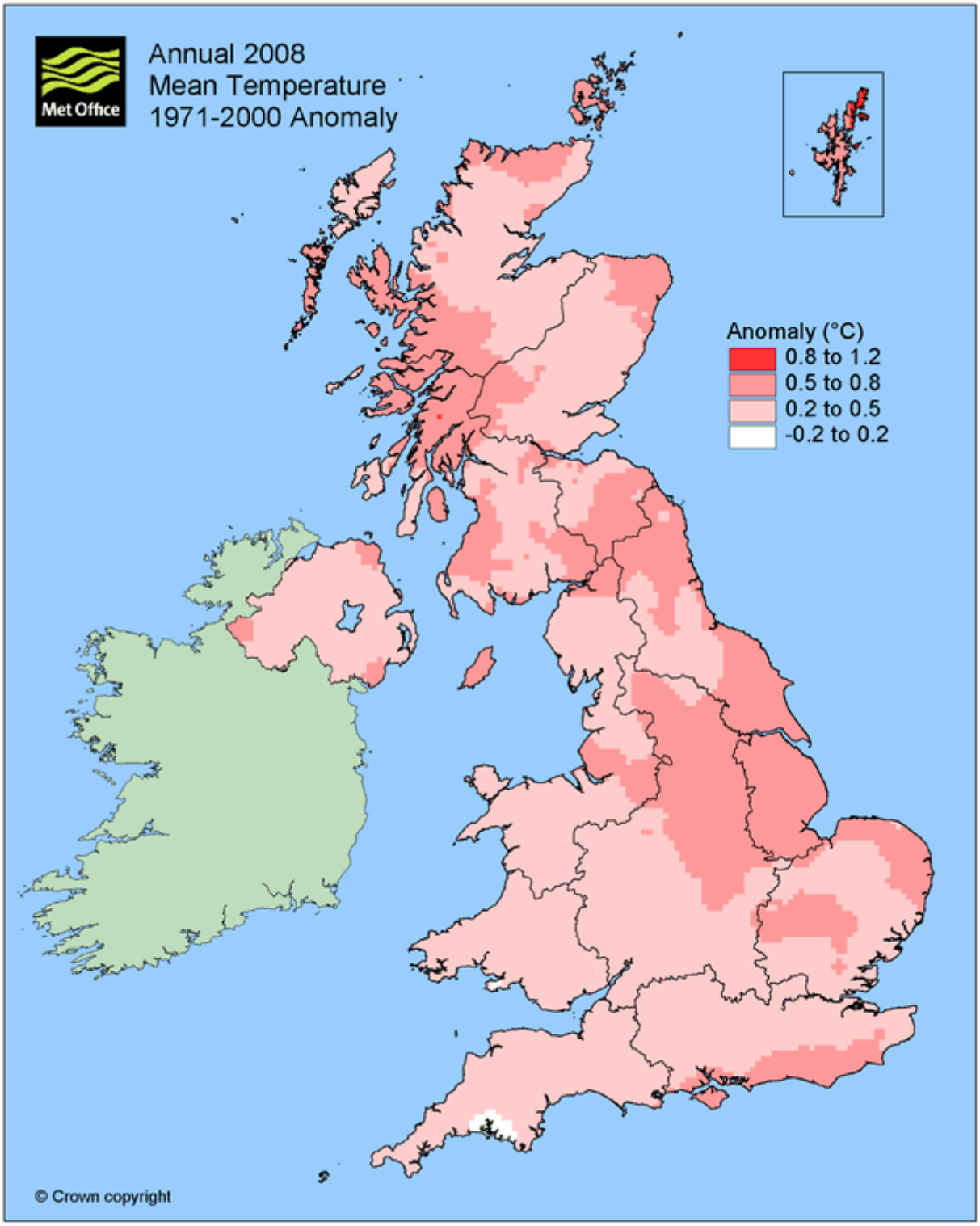
Rainfall for 2008 was above or well above average across most of the UK, with parts of south east Scotland and north east England recording around 140% of their average annual rainfall. Northumberland and some historic county areas of southern Scotland had their wettest year in the areal series back to 1914. Scotland had its third-wettest year (the wettest year being 1990) and the UK also had its third-wettest year, (the wettest year being 2000). Eight months of 2008 had above average rainfall for the UK, with only February, May, November and December having less than average rainfall.

Sunshine duration for 2008 was generally just above average, with the UK receiving 103%. February and December 2008 were very sunny months for the UK, with around 140 to 160% of average sunshine. In contrast, August 2008 was a very dull month, with only around 65% of average sunshine.

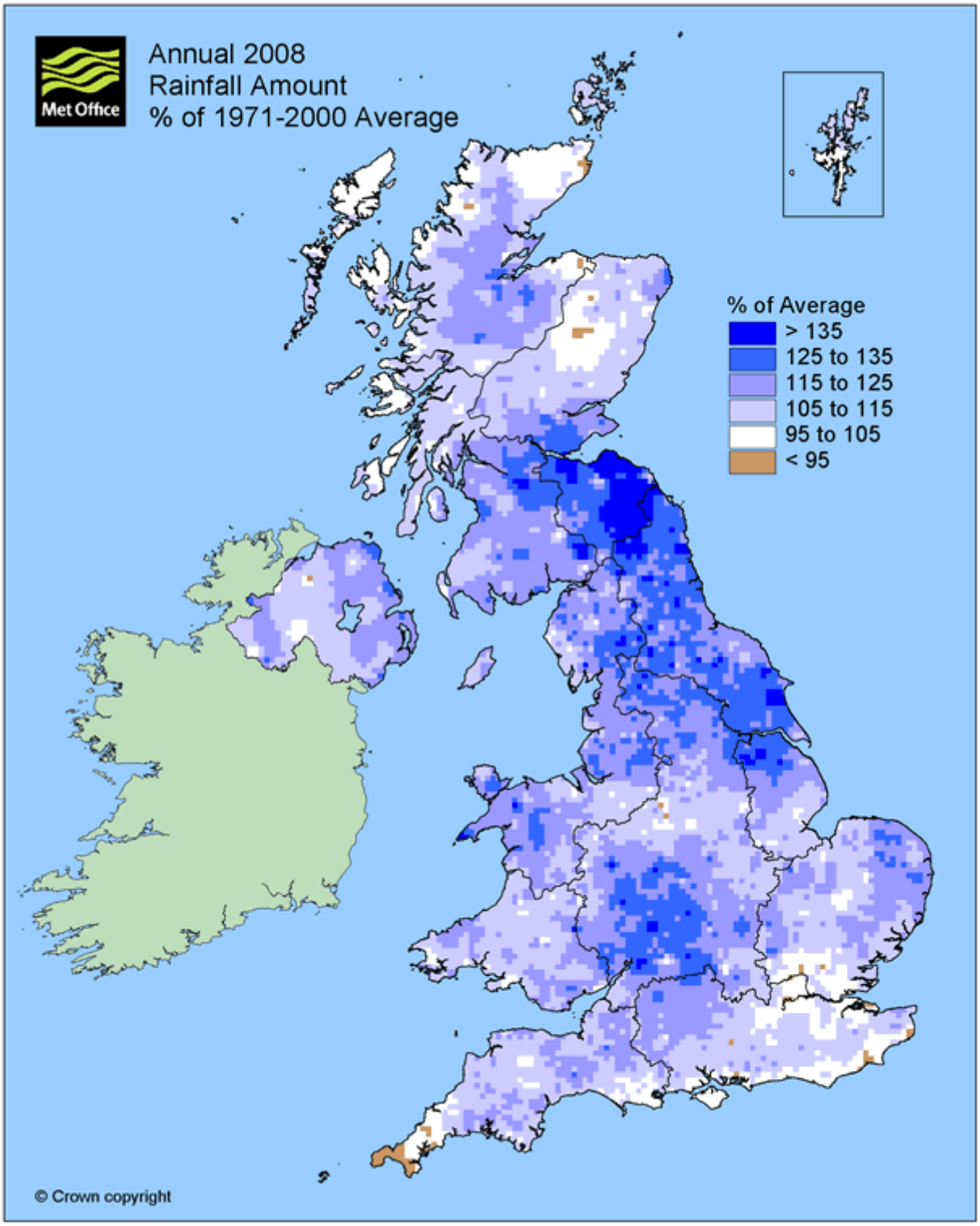
UK statistical summary

Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The mean value is 9.1 °C, which is 0.5 °C above the 1971-2000 average.	The total is 1295 mm, which is 115% of the 1971-2000 average.	The total is 1389 hours, which is 103% of the 1971-2000 average.

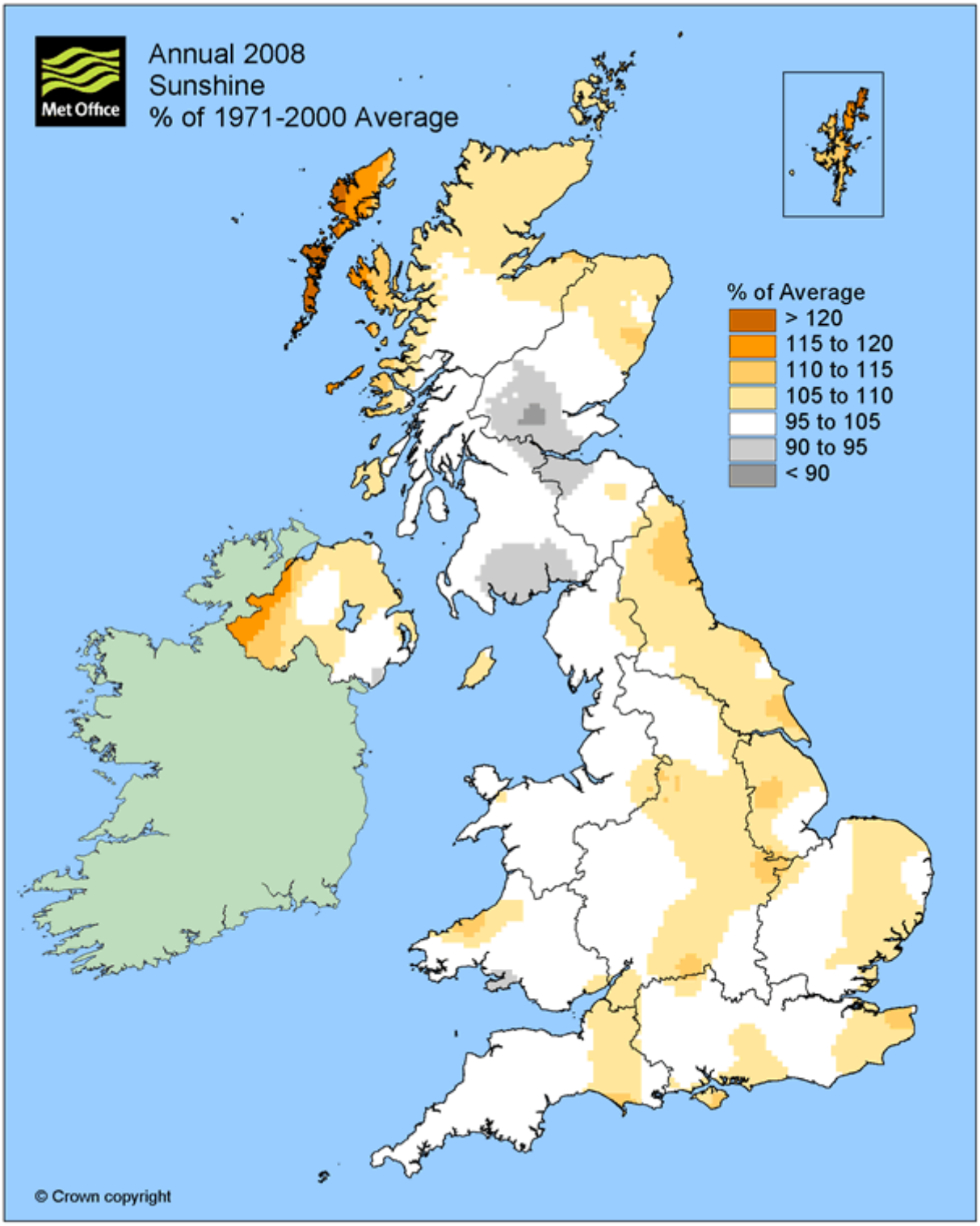
Mean temperature anomaly (difference from average) map for the year 2008



Mean rainfall percent of average map for the year 2008



Sunshine percent of average map for the year 2008



Last updated: 27 February 2013

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